

## Bear Facts you need to know

In areas where required, campers and overnight hikers need to provide their own Forest Service approved bear-resistant containers from suppliers listed at: [http://www.igbconline.org/images/pdf/14\\_07\\_31\\_products\\_list.pdf](http://www.igbconline.org/images/pdf/14_07_31_products_list.pdf). Local retailers of approved canisters may have them available for sale or rent. Prices of Forest Service approved backpacker canisters range around \$80 for a 3 gallon canister.

Effective storage of food, garbage, and attractants is absolutely necessary to prevent bears from becoming habituated to human food and waste. If you camp overnight, expect wilderness rangers to enforce the restrictions in areas where they apply. The fine for violating requirements for proper storage of food, garbage, and attractants is approximately \$125, and the fine for camping in a closed area is up to six months in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

Practices at backcountry and camping sites for securing food, garbage, and attractants are based on Leave No Trace Ethics (<https://lnt.org/>). Specifically for bears, practices include properly storing unattended food, garbage, and attractant when not in immediate use. **Never** leave or eat food in tents. Also, visitors are reminded to not feed bears or any wildlife, and pack out all trash and refuse. Visitors are recommended to be extremely cautious when camping overnight in West Maroon Valley of the Aspen-Sopris Ranger District. Bear danger is high there and it is up to humans to tread lightly in Wilderness.

### Examples of Allowed Canisters:

- Backpacker Model 812 (Garcia)  
[www.backpackerscache.com](http://www.backpackerscache.com)
- BearVault 110b, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, and 500  
[www.bearvault.com](http://www.bearvault.com)
- Bearikade Weekender MKII (1766 and higher) and Expedition MKII (1766 and higher)  
[www.wild-ideas.net](http://www.wild-ideas.net)
- The Bear Keg (Counter Assault)  
[www.counterassault.com](http://www.counterassault.com)
- The Bare Boxer Contender (101) and Champ (202)  
[www.bareboxer.com](http://www.bareboxer.com)
- Lighter1 Big Daddy and Little Sami  
[www.lighter1.com](http://www.lighter1.com)
- UDAP No-Fed-Bear  
[www.udap.com](http://www.udap.com)

### Examples of Allowed Backpacks:

- Wise Backpack

### Examples of Allowed Panniers:

- DeCarteret Aluminum Stock Panniers
- Berner Bear Box  
303/343-1998

- Bear Aware Panniers

[www.bear-aware.com](http://www.bear-aware.com)

- Bear Country Camping Models SFO and HFO

[www.bearcountrycontainers.com/catalog.htm](http://www.bearcountrycontainers.com/catalog.htm)

- Outfitters Supply TrailMax Bear Proof Pack Panniers

[www.outfitterssupply.com](http://www.outfitterssupply.com)

For more information contact Phil Nyland, Wildlife Biologist at (970) 963-2266. Additional information about camping on the White River National Forest can be obtained by calling the Rifle, Blanco, Aspen, Carbondale, Eagle, or Minturn offices M-F, 8am-4:30pm. Information may also be found on the Forest Service website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/whiteriver/> under "Alerts and Warnings" in the right hand column.



**Failed attempts at hanging food/garbage from bears.**